Hindu Religious Endowments

Report by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board on the Tirupati Devasthanam Bill.

* 266-A *Q.*—Mr. C. Basu Dev: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received any report from the Hindu Religious Endowments Board on the Tirupati Devasthanam Bill, given notice of by me among others; and

(*b*) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, whether he will be pleased to lay it on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The papers [a] are placed on the table.

Report on the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill.

* 266-B *Q.*—Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any report or memorandum from the President of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board on the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill; and

(*b*) if so, whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the same?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 266-A.

Constitution of temple committees.

* 267 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) with reference to G.O. No. 2032, L. & M., dated 12th June 1931, where the Government say that they provisionally fix the strength of temple committees as in the annexure thereto, whether the Government propose to raise the strength to the maximum by nominating their own candidates; and

(*b*) if so, why they have introduced this system at all?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Local Self-Government

Elections to the local boards and municipalities.

* 268 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the elections to the district boards, taluk boards and panchayats and municipalities will take place actually;

(*b*) whether the elections throughout the Presidency will be held at a time or whether they will be conducted in one district after another district;

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[a] Printed as Appendix IX on pages 144–152 infra.

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(*c*) whether instructions have been issued to the Election Officers, in the matter of the preparation of electoral roll, and further proceedings of the elections; and

(*d*) whether a copy of the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Elections to Municipal Councils will commence in September and are expected to be completed by the 15th of December next. It is not possible to say when elections to local boards will be actually held, but they will probably commence only after 15th December.

(*b*) The dates for elections to Municipal Councils will be fixed for each separately. The polling for district and taluk boards will probably take place on the same day in each polling area but, until arrangements are more advanced than now, it is difficult to say whether polling at all polling stations in a district will be on the same day. The elections for panchayat boards will be held separately from those for district and taluk boards.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) If the hon. Member will specify the particular subject instructions in respect of which he desires to be placed on the table, Government will consider the suggestion.

Reservation of seats for minority communities in Mangalore Municipality.

12 noon. * 269 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) on what principles reservation of seats for minority communities is made in Municipal Councils and Local Boards; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that two seats for Christian men and one seat for Christian women have been ordered or are contemplated to be reserved in the case of the Mangalore Municipality; if so, on what basis the reservation has been ordered to be made?

A.—(*a*) Government are guided by the provisions of sub-sections (3) and (4) of section 7 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and of sub-sections (4), (5) and (6) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920. As under the Acts not more than one-fourth of the number of seats on any local body can be reserved, reservation is ordinarily limited to 50 per cent of what the communities will be entitled to on the population basis. Each case, however, is decided on its own merits.

(*b*) Two seats have been reserved for Indian Christians and two for women. Two seats are less than what Indian Christians are entitled to on the 50 per cent working principle referred to in the answer to clause (*a*). The reservation of two seats for women is in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Municipal Council in its resolution, dated 12th March 1931.